

'Switch Off' And Save



Dublin City Council, in partnership with Codema, Dublin's sustainable energy agency, is asking all staff to 'switch off' as part of the 'Minus 3 per cent' campaign. By switching off office appliances like computers and photocopiers

when they are not needed, staff can help save thousands off their department's energy bill.

The 'Minus 3 per cent' campaign is a European project that aims to reduce energy use by Local Authorities by 3 per cent each year. Dublin is one of seven European cities involved in the project. It is hoped to achieve a reduction of 30 per cent in energy use by 2020. Energy areas covered by the project include heating, electricity use, street lighting, water and waste water services.

Aidan Maher, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services Department, is leading the project within the council. Aidan and staff from Codema carried out an assessment of the total energy output of the Civic Offices in February. They hope to carry out a second assessment soon, to see if energy output has changed. "We hope that by 'switching off', all staff will play their part in reducing the council's spending on energy", says Aidan.

How can I find out more?

Representatives from Codema will be on hand to answer your questions in the Atrium, Civic Offices on 15th and 16th April. They will have tips about saving energy around the office. You will be able to submit your own ideas on how to improve energy efficiency in the workplace. You will also have the chance to win some great prizes.

For more information, contact Edel Giltenane, Codema, T. 410 0563 or Suzanne Morgan, Codema, T. 410 0571.

Let's Walk & Talk – April Walks



Enthusiasts from a recent 'Let's Walk & Talk' tour.

Dublin City Council are delighted to announce further walks this April as part of the 'Let's Walk & Talk' initiative.

- **Thursday 9th April, 11am**
'Around Trinity College – Alma Mater to a great literary heritage'.
Meet at the front entrance of Trinity College
- **Monday 13th April, 11am**
'Handel's Dublin – Then and Now'.
Meet at Jervis LUAS stop. This tour will finish at Fishamble Street by 1pm in time for a free street performance of 'Messiah on the Street' by Our Lady's Choral Society.
- **Thursday 16th April, 5.30pm**
'Swift and his Liberties'.
Meet at St. Patrick's Park, Patrick St. D. 8, (beside Cathedral entrance). This tour will finish at 7.30pm in time for 'Gothic Readings and Music by Candlelight' in St. Patrick's Cathedral.
- **Tuesday 21st April, 7pm**
'Aristocrats & Dockers'.
An exciting historical tour around a part of Dublin that was once the playground for aristocrats but later a 19th century industrial zone and area of great poverty. Meet at 'The Five Lamps', North Strand, D. 1. As part of Social Inclusion Week we will be joining forces with the National Council of the Blind and National League of the Blind Walking Group on this walk.
- **Tuesday 28th April, 2.30pm**
'Writers in Residence – the Georgian homes of literary notables'.
Meet at the entrance to St. Stephen's Green (facing Leeson St./Earlsfort Terrace).

For further details, contact Ronan O'Donnell, Community Development Officer, T. 222 3726 or W. www.letswalkandtalk.ie

Ballymun Goes Green With BRL And IKEA

Ballymun Regeneration Limited (BRL) and IKEA Dublin hosted an environmental fair recently in the newly constructed IKEA store in Ballymun. IKEA and BRL are committed to the sustainable regeneration of Ballymun. Their initiatives include the use of recycled bricks from the demolition of the Ballymun flats for the construction of the IKEA building.

The fair was a showcase of BRL's environmental initiatives and green projects, which have earned Ballymun the national title of 'Green Community' of the year for 2008. Visitors to the fair were able to view the design for the proposed Rediscovery Centre, check out recycled furniture and funky fashions. Eco-smoothies were also available to make and taste! Other exhibitions showed the workings and benefits of 'Energy Harness' a new standard in efficient heating, plumbing, and renewable energy designed by BRL.

In line with IKEA's green ethos, the Dublin IKEA Store combines ground source geothermal energy, a wood burning boiler and rainwater harvesting. Using renewable energy in this way will result in a 65% reduction in carbon emissions, which is the equivalent of the energy consumption of 300 average family homes. The IKEA store is due to open in late July 2009.



Visitors at the recent Environmental Fair in Ballymun hosted by BRL and IKEA